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February 27, 2003

TO:

Commissioner for

FROM:

Nancy J. Parsons

Patents

Attn: Examiner Bruce Snow.

Patent Examining Corps

OUR REF: 6683.26USC1

Facsimile Center

Washington, D.C. 20231

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Total pages, including cover letter:

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If you do NOT receive all of the pages, please telephone us at 612.336.4664, or fax usar OUP 3700 612.332.9081.

Title of Document Transmitted:

Amendment

Applicant:

Kohrs

Serial No.:

09/777,631

Filed:

02/06/2001

Group Art Unit:

3738

Our Ref. No.:

6683.26USC1

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Signature

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE **ART UNIT 3738**

S/N 09/777,631

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Kohrs

Examiner:

B. Snow

Serial No.:

09/777,631

Group Art Unit:

3738

Filed:

February 6, 2001

Docket No.:

6683.26USC1

Title:

INTERVERTEBRAL IMPLANT WITH REDUCED CONTACT AREA

AND METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: TC3700, Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 27, 2003.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

VIA FACSIMILE TC3700 703-872-9303

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 27, 2002, please amend the above-referenced application for patent as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 48, 51 and 52, amend claims 1, 40 and 49, and add new claims 53 - 57 to read as set forth below:

- (Twice Amended) An implant for intervertebral fusion between opposing 1. vertebrae, said implant comprising:
 - an implant body having a first end and a second end spaced along a longitudinal axis of the body, said first end having a first diameter and said

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